Concordia University Pagan Society September 2001

Tidings

How to Reach Us

At Our Office

7141 Sherbrooke St. West
Room SC 03-3 (Loyola)

Office Hours
Every Thursday 6:00pm – 9:00pm
(Or by appointment)

By Phone

(514) 848-7441 Leave a message

By E-Mail

cups@fastmail.ca

By Mail

1455 de Maisonneuve West
Suite H-637-3
Montreal, QC, H3G 1M8

Meet CUPS

Come join CUPS at its monthly General Meetings. We'll hold discussions on a variety of topics of interest to Pagan folk. Come out and contribute or just listen.

Next meeting:

Time:
Friday, September 28th at 7:00pm

Place:
Campus Ministry (Room Z-105)
2090 Mackay (downtown campus)
Please call (514) 848-7441 for info.

We will be discussing up-coming events, developing strategies as to how to attract members this new school year, discussing the possibility of up-coming ritual as well as the Samhain fair, and generally how to make this the best year CUPS has had to date!
Workshops to be offered in the future include: Tarot, Elements of a Wiccan Ritual, Paganism & the Martial Arts, Paganism & the Family. Watch this space for more information!

Bulletins

* Join us at cupagans@yahoogroups.com (an electronic mailing list for CUPS). It's a great place to get the latest news about CUPS and to get into some very lively discussions.

To subscribe, send a message to:
cupagans-subscribe@yahoogroups.com
To unsubscribe, send a blank email to:
cupagans-unsubscribe@yahoogroups.com
To post a message, send the email to:
cupagans@yahoogroups.com

* The Montreal Pagan Resource Centre provides a reading-only library, for pagans and non-pagans alike, to consult. A pot of coffee and tea is always available, as is contact information about professionals & artisans within the city. The Centre is a meeting place for all traditions within the pagan community of Montreal, a place for teaching, sharing and learning.
Further information, events schedules & volunteer forms available online at http://www.mprc.paganuniverse.com.
Location: 1928 St. Catherine Street West
E-mail: mprc@total.net

* The next Pagan Café will occur Monday, September 10th at 7 PM, at Ciné Express, 1926 Sainte-Catherine Ouest, (near metro Guy, on the green line).
Why? Because we need a place where we can meet & discuss issues relevant to the community at large. Pagans of all paths are welcome! Especially those of you who just want to learn more about topics relating to Paganism. We'll be discussing a different issue every other week.
This week's topic: Is magic necessary to Paganism?
This bilingual event is not sponsored or supported by any particular group.

About Tidings

Tidings is a free newsletter published by the Concordia University Pagan Society (CUPS) on the last week of each month.

Announcements of interest to the Pagan community will be printed free of charge.

Submissions for upcoming issues may be made by e-mail to cups@fastmail.ca, in TEXT format, or to our postal address. Bear in mind that our publication is black & white.

The deadline for any submissions is 7 days before our monthly General Meeting.

September Daze

(info from Calendar at About.com, Interfaithcalendar.org, and Diversityatwork.com)

September is the ninth month of the Gregorian calendar and the first month of Autumn. Septem (the Latin word meaning seven) was the 7th month of the old Roman calendar. When other months were added to the calendar, the name was never changed for some reason.
The Wheel of the Year is turned toward the Autumn Equinox, one of the four Lesser or Minor Festivals celebrated each year by modern Pagans and neo-Pagans in some form, all the world over.

The birth stone of September is the sapphire:

A maiden born when rustling leaves
Are blowing in the September breeze,
A sapphire on her brow should bind,
'Twill cure diseases of the mind.

Correspondences

Nature Spirits: Trooping faeries
Herbs: Copal, Fennel, Rye, Wheat, Valerian, Skullcap
Colors: brown, yellow-green & yellow
Flowers: Narcissus & Lily
Scents: Storax, Mastic, Gardenia & Bergamot
Stones: Peridot, Olivine, Chrysolite & Citrine
Trees: Hazel, Larch, Bay, vines & Ivy
Animals: Snake & Jackal Birds: Ibis & Sparrow
Deities: Freyja, Heimdall, Cernunnos & Lugh
Time Uses: Organize. Clean and straighten up physical, mental, emotional and spiritual clutter

September 1st
Zarathushtra (or Zoroaster), founder of Zoroasterianism, was born on this date in the 6th century B.C.E.

September 2nd Full Moon

Ksamavani - the "day of universal forgiveness" for wrongs committed by Jains and to them.

Grape Vine Festival - This was a harvest festival held in ancient Greece to honor Dionysus & Ariadne

September 3rd
Labour Day - Celebrate in Canada and the U.S.A., it was declared a national holiday on July 23, 1894 to honour working people everywhere.

Path Clearing Festival - held by the Akan people of Ghana to honor & receive blessings from the ancient God of the sacred well

Lakon - Hopi tribe women's festival in honor of The Maidens of the Four Directions

September 4th
Changing Woman Ceremony - The Apache tribe in Arizona hold this rite-of-passage festival at sunrise. The ritual lasts four days, and marks the coming of age of a pubescent girl.

September 5th
Chauti - Parade & festival in honor of Ganesha, the

elephant headed god of luck and prosperity in the Hindu faith. Flowers and dishes of rice are placed before his statues. It is said that if Ganesha is worshipped at this time, wishes will come true.

September 6th
Citua (Feast of the Moon) - Ancient Incan festival held on or around this date. The festival honored Mama Quilla, the Moon Goddess. Adherents performed a ritual cleansing, then smeared their faces with a paste of ground maize. Parents would eat a special cake consecrated with the blood of their offspring

September 7th
Horned Dance at Abbotts Bromley - Today marks the day of the Horned Dance at Abbots Bromley, which exemplifies and honors the Horned God in the Celtic pantheon, Cernunnos. "The Horned One" is a Celtic god of fertility, life, animals, wealth, and the underworld. He was worshipped all over Gaul, and his cult spread into Britain as well. Cernunnos is depicted with the antlers of a stag, sometimes carries a purse filled with coin. The Horned God is born at the winter solstice, marries the goddess at Beltane, and dies at the summer solstice. He alternates with the goddess of the moon in ruling over life and death, continuing the cycle of death, rebirth and reincarnation.

September 8th
Slichot - Jewish worship service to begin making repentance for wrongs done the past year.

Nativity of the Mother of God - Catholic Christians hold a feast in celebration of Mary's birth on this day.

September 9th
Asclepigenia - a festival in honor of Asclepius, the famed physician, and the son of Apollo was celebrated today in ancient Greece.

September 11th
Meskerem (New Year) - During the time of Pharaohs 4,000 years ago, the appearance of Sothis (Dog Star) marked the signal that the Nile River would rise, flooding the fertile plains so that planting could begin. Thus it became the New Year. The Coptic Orthodox honour their church's martyrs as well and everything is red on this day.

The Day of Queens - festival in honor of the deified queens of Egypt, Hatshepsut, Nefertiti, and Cleopatra.

September 12th
Astraea's Day - Astraea was a maiden deity (of ancient Greece) who had the power to bestow wealth, victory, wisdom, and good luck. She once wandered the earth and gave her blessings on humans but when they turned cruel she took her final place among the stars in the constellation Virgo.

Paitishahem - Zoroastrian feast of bringing in the harvest. Continues through Sept. 16th.

September 14th
Feast of Lights - general festival of lights for all the Gods and Goddesses of Egypt, but especially for Nepthys. Lamps of all kinds were set in front of deity statues. There were also placed before statues of ancestors.

September 15th
Our Lady of Sorrows - feast commemorating Mary's intense suffering during the passion and death of Christ.

September 16th
Feast of Saint Cornely - in Brittany, a feast is held in honor of Saint Cornely, the patron of horned animals. Oxen are blessed at midnight in a shrine dedicated to him.

September 17th New Moon

Festival of the Eleusian Mysteries- mysterious rites in honor of the goddess Ceres. These rites surpassed all other Greek religious celebrations in their solemnity and splendor. Initiations would take place in a secret underground chamber full of passageways and sacred objects, and would continue till the end of the month.

September 18th
Scouring of the White Horse: The scouring of the White Horse begins today in the hillsides of Berkshire, England. The "White Horse" is an amazing carving in the hills of this township, depicting a white horse and very clearly visible from the air. Our forebears showed amazing ability to plan out this 'monument' of sorts in such magnitude.

Chung- Ch'iu (Chinese Harvest Moon Festival) - festival in honor of Ch-ang-O, the Chinese moon goddess. Also believed to be the birthday of the moon.

Day of Thoth - day-long fast to honor Thoth, god of learning and books.

September 19th
Annual festival of feasts & prayers in honor of Gula, Babylonian Goddess of birth.

September 20th
South of the equator, Incans celebrated Spring Equinox on or around this date. Festivals were held to celebrate the birthday of the God Quetzalcoatl.

September 21st
Feast of Divine Life - celebration of the Moon and the life-giving waters which came from it. Egyptians sacrificed a pig to the moon at this time.

September 22nd
Mabon - The last holiday or festival of the year, Mabon, is named for the Welsh God who's called the "great son". This festival is celebrated at the autumn equinox and marks the second of the three harvests. Apple and berry harvesting, cemetery visitations, and wine making are central feature of this observance. In Welsh mythology, Mabon was stolen from his mother when he was 3 days old and taken to live in the dark underworld until rescued in the spring. This myth underscores the fact that after this night of balance, darkness emerges triumphant over the light, and will remain so until Ostara.

Winter Finding - Winter Finding is the time when day and night are of equal length. Today is a harvest festival, and you can celebrate it with a meal at which you express thanks to the Gods for the powers of the soil. Raise a horn of your favorite drink to the Freya, and to her brother Frey.

Fall Equinox - The Fall Equinox is a Thanksgiving feast and signals the beginning of the Hunting Season (for deer and other large game) in many parts of Europe and North America. Thus, it is dedicated to the Hunting and Fishing Deities and the Deities of Plenty, in thankfulness for benefits received and hoped for. Outdoor picnics in the woods are a popular tradition in those areas where the weather is still good at this time of year. Hunting magic may be minimized by those living in areas where game is a little deer. Since most of us do not have crops to harvest, or herds to tend, this is an opportunity for the modern pagan to begin new traditions. Giving thanks for what you have and what you will receive in the coming season.

September 24th
Sacred day of the West African deity Obtala, a hermaphrodite deity who was believed to have given birth to all Yorubian Gods and Goddesses.

Greater Eleusinia - festival honoring Demeter, Persepone, and the sacred child Iacchus. Unlike the Lesser Eleusinia held in the Spring, the celebration was open only to initiates who were under strict silence about what occurred.

September 25th
Birth of Sedna, the Eskimo Goddess of both the sea and the Underworld

Pyanopsia - a feast of beans, celebrated in honor of the God Apollo, and the three Goddesses of the four seasons known as the Horae.

September 26th
Mid Autumn Day - Mid Autumn Day is a Scottish holiday, which traditionally toasted the start of the mating season for deer, yet again, paying homage to the upcoming hunting season and the Folk fulfilling their needs for the upcoming winter, such as through hunt and harvest.

A goat sacrifice was performed in ancient times to assuage Azazel, a Hebrew fallen angel who seduced mankind.

September 27th
Yom Kippur - the Day of Atonement, is a time for the confession of sins of the individual and the community. It is a day of solemn fasting, culminating in forgiveness and reconciliation. Together Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur make up the Days of Awe, a most significant time in the Jewish year.

Choosuk - harvest festival in honor of the Moon Hare and the Moon Goddess Ch'ang-O. Chinese magicians used willow wands, wax dolls, water divining, geomancy, yarrow sticks, and magic mirrors for divination during the festival.

September 29th
St. Michael and All Angels - Catholic/Protestant Christian: Christian celebration of angels as companions who help fight off the power of evil and who are present at the hour of death.

September 30th
Festival of Themis - celebration of the Goddess as ruler of Delphi. Themis is a very ancient Goddess of justice. Oaths were taken in her name while wearing her sacred purple mantle.

Rosh Hashanah - The Jewish New Year and the beginning of the Ten Days of Penitence. According to tradition, the first human being, Adam was created on this day.